

OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM



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May 5, 2015

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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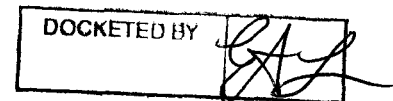
Arizona Corporation Commissioners
1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

ORIGINAL

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

MAY 08 2015

RE: Docket # L-00000B-15-0059-00170



Dear Arizona Corporation Commissioners:

I am an Arizona native. I have lived here for 40 years. I purchased my dream home in South Chandler in December of 2003, twelve years ago. I have raised four children in this home and love everything about my city. I am proud to call Chandler home. These feelings are in jeopardy today as we fight to protect our home, our children, and our beautiful Arizona skyline.

SRP has proposed the placement of high voltage power poles next to many neighborhoods along the railroad tracks south of Ocotillo all the way down to the Gila River Indian Community. There are poles along this route as we speak. They are 60 feet tall. The poles they will be putting in are 154 feet tall. They will also carry many times the electricity that the current lines carry. These lines will provide power to many new and future businesses along the Price Road Corridor. There will also be a solar farm on the reservation. The power from the solar station will need to be transferred back into the grid. That power will be strung back up these lines into the Schrader substation, as well as others. We are not talking about a small project. We are talking about poles more than double the height and width of the current poles, carrying 1000's more volts of electricity. Picture super industrial, hideously ugly electrical lines filling the sky. Now, imagine this... This is happening 30 yards from my front door. I am NOT the only one affected. There are hundreds of houses along the route. The maps and google images that are being used to discuss this project do NOT include new developments along the route. As I stated above, I have lived here for 12 years. My home is my biggest investment. Extensive research shows that the value of our homes will decrease anywhere from 10-20% with the placement of these power lines. For my house alone, I will be losing \$70,000 to \$140,000 off the sale price of my home. Now multiply that by the hundreds of families affected. It's a monumental problem. Would you purchase a home under these lines? Of course you wouldn't. You would shop a mile or two away to avoid them.

Next, and even more terrifying than that....there are many, many studies that prove that these HIGH VOLTAGE LINES are directly related to 60% increases in the occurrence and development of childhood leukemia and other cancers. There are also many studies that debunk this claim. I can find just as many that support it as I can find those that say it's false. I don't know about you, but I'm not comfortable with the odds that my children will be at risk. Would you let your kids or grandkids play in your yard under these things if there was even the **SLIGHTEST** chance that you are putting them at risk? I have four kids. Multiply that by 100's of homes. Now we are in the thousands. These are our children that we are talking about. Why put them in harm's way if it is avoidable?

There are many neighborhoods that are in favor of the railroad route. Do you know why they are in favor? Because it's not next to their homes! Not a single person wants these lines built next to their home! NOT ONE. It is said that SRP provided ample warning about this project and because we didn't get loud enough in 2013, we don't matter. Our voices are somehow less important now because we came late to the game. I wish SRP had knocked on as many doors as I have in the last month. Not surprisingly, 9 out of 10 residents had NO IDEA the lines were coming their way. Yes, there were meetings about the proposed routes, but CLEARLY not everybody heard about them. I find it hard to believe that the argument that SRP is using is that we didn't speak up soon enough. Well, **WE ARE SPEAKING UP NOW.**

SRP has said they realize that bringing the lines through heavily populated areas would be a mistake. How are they saying that the railroad is not a heavily populated area? There are HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS of homes directly against the tracks and along this route! My home is located in a very urban developed portion of South Chandler. I am NOT in an undeveloped area. This is a ludicrous claim. Not only have many of these homes been here for over a decade, there are MANY new developments along the route that aren't being disclosed as being in existence! Why are the homes on Germann and Ocotillo more important than those going south on the tracks? Are you really willing to say that their children mean more than mine? Are they somehow protected from taking a hit on their home values because they went to a meeting two years ago and I didn't? I pay the same taxes. I live in the same city. **MY NEIGHBORS AND I ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THOSE THAT LIVED ON OTHER PROPOSED ROUTES.** It is sickening how we all want to look out for ourselves and throw our neighbors to the wolves. Once again, the reason this has turned into a fight is that NOBODY wants it in their own backyard. Am I supposed to take one for the team and be happy about it? Am I supposed to let my little girl ride her bike under these lines that are 50 FEET FROM HER and not wonder why she was somehow less important than a child on Germann Road????

This is the 21st century. We have the means and technological advances to support keeping our cities beautiful and our residents safe. Why aren't we talking about the real solution to the problem? Why are we shifting the problem from one neighborhood to the next and expecting the unfortunate residents with the losing straw to take one for all of Chandler? States and cities all over the nation have figured this out already. **BURY THE LINE THROUGH OUR NEIGHBORHOODS.** We are not asking to bury the entire line. Only the section that goes right

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by our homes. You say this will start a precedent? I hope so. I don't believe that any new lines that need to be erected should jeopardize our Arizona residents. Arizona does not need industrial, EMF emitting, electrical eyesores filling the skies. I would like a clear view of the mountains. I would like my children to stay cancer free. I want the value of our homes to continue to rise.

The cost will be more, indeed. It is impossible to fathom that SRP does not have the funds to support three miles of underground line for this project. Rather than SRP, the MONOPOLY, spend millions on advertising (who are they advertising to?), perhaps that money would be better spent going back to the customers that they serve. SRP is protected from paying taxes. Why is that? SRP has been given much more power and leeway than it deserves. We, as taxpayers and customers, should be considered before they worry about filling their pockets. They have a bank account with over \$200 million in it and they are concerned about the extra \$28 million that this project will cost?? What about the huge interest payment on their investment account in the amount of \$75 million? If this line is only being put up to serve the Price Road Corridor and future businesses, why are those corporations not throwing some money in the pot? Why do those of us that live along this route have to take the hit for everybody else?? Why are some homes less important to protect than others? These lines may cost me \$100,000 and the possibility of a **kid with cancer**. Is that fair? These lines will provide power to all of us. They will support job growth and the businesses we support and the future of green power. It is not ok to ask a few Chandler residents to bare that cost and burden alone.

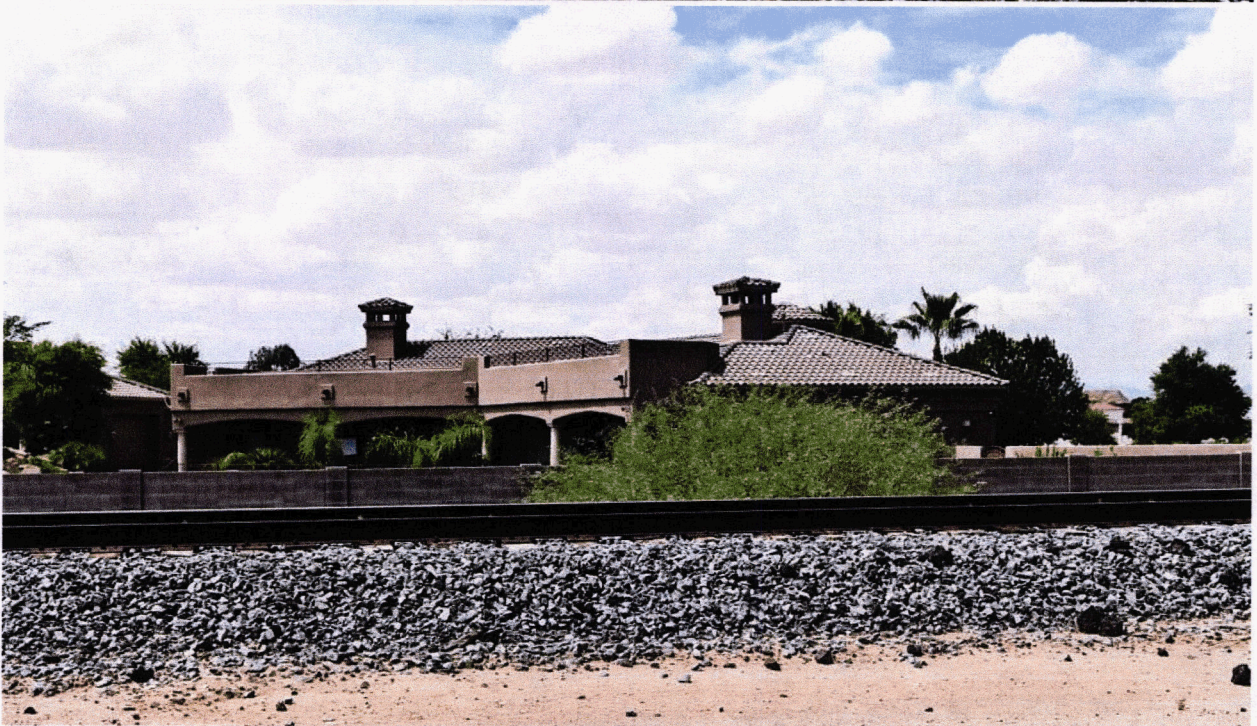
Growth is inevitable. While this is happening in my backyard today, it could just as easily happen in yours tomorrow. I want you to imagine, for a moment...that you live in my home just a stone's throw from these proposed lines. You have children that play in the street and hope to someday build equity in the home you love so much. Would you put these lines above your head? No, you wouldn't. Nobody would. My family is just as important as yours, and it's about time somebody consider that when they make these decisions.

SRP CANNOT be allowed to put these dangerous and obtrusive lines through our existing neighborhoods. **Bury them**. Keep Arizona safe and beautiful. Show everybody that you care about the people you are supposed to protect. Stand up for my home and my family as if it was your own.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Schoneberger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

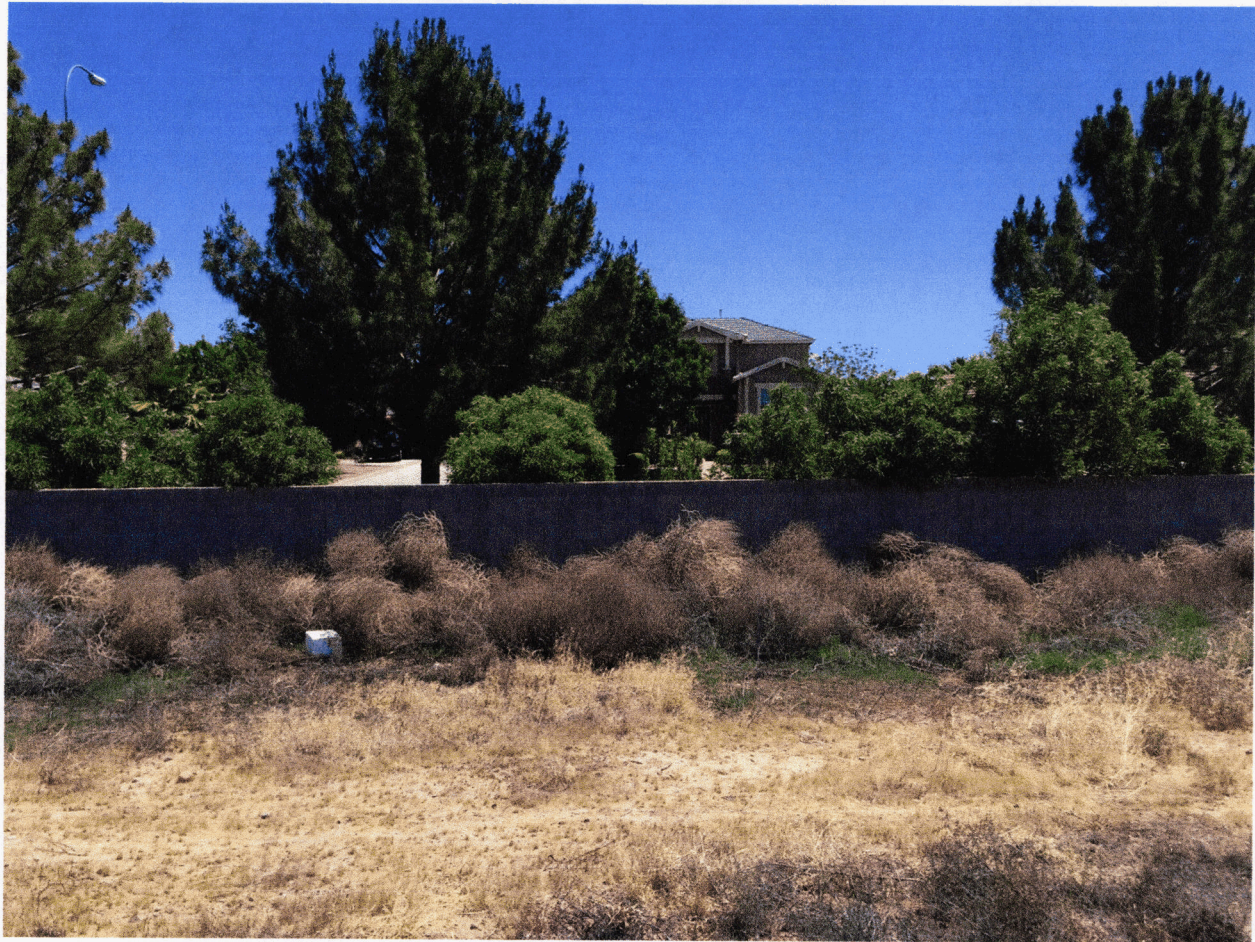
Lisa Schoneberger



Custom homes built in this
area for the views!



This is how close the poles will
be to homes.



This is my house.
30 yards from the
proposed route.